

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Complete listing of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of isolating a predetermined area of hair-bearing skin and measuring the combined cross section of uncut hair within the area comprising the steps of:

preparing a pre-measured site using a combing element;

isolating a bundle or column of hair from the site;

peripherally positioning hair restraining elements adjacent the site to immobilize the non-isolated hair;

providing a measuring device with a hair-receiving slot;

placing the bundle or column of uncut hair in the slot;

moving a bottom of the slot against an anvil of the device;

measuring the height or mass of the compressed bundle or column of uncut hair in the slot; and,

comparing the height or mass of hair measured with the height or mass of other hair measurements of a similar bundle or column of uncut hair.

2. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 1 including the step of peripherally positioning hair restraining elements adjacent the site to immobilize the non-isolated hair.~~

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the similar bundle of hair is from the permanent hair area.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the measurement of a similar bundle of hair was from a previously isolated bundle of hair from approximately the same of the site.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including the step of placing a predetermined compression on the anvil.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the site is approximately 2 cm by 2cm square.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the slot is approximately 1mm wide by 12mm high.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for isolating an area of hair-bearing skin and measuring a combined cross section of hair in the area comprising the steps of:

preparing a pre-measured site on the scalp;

isolating a standardized bundle of uncut hair at the site;

positioning hair restraining elements at the periphery of the site;

compressing the bundle of hair with a measurable load while simultaneously measuring the height of the bundle of hair with a piston and cylinder device.

9. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 8 including the step of positioning hair restraining elements at the periphery of the site.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A device for measuring the cross-sectional area of uncut hair from a pre-measured area of hair-bearing skin, said device comprising a body, a plunger extending through said body and out one end of said body, a boss wall surface at said one end of said body, a compression spring associated with said body for applying a predetermined amount of pressure on ~~one of~~ said plunger ~~or said boss~~, said plunger extending through a ~~through bore in said boss~~ said wall surface and having a "J" shaped end defined by a main leg portion extending through said ~~through bore in said boss~~ wall surface and a hook leg portion, said two leg portions defining a hair receiving slot therebetween, ~~a wall of said boss between said through bore and an outer surface of said boss being slidably received in the slot upon relative movement between said boss and said "J" shaped end of said plunger, an end surface of said wall surface defining an anvil which is received in said slot and against which hair received in said slot is compressed, and measuring means associated with said body and associated with said plunger for measuring the extent of movement of said plunger.~~

11. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 10 wherein said slot is approximately 1mm wide and 12mm high.

12. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 10 wherein said measuring means include one of an integrated or separate electronic caliper with a visual display for indicating the height of compressed hair in said slot when said "J" shaped end of said plunger is moved toward said ~~boss~~ anvil with a bundle of hair in said slot.

13. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 10 wherein said measuring means include a scale, gauge or analog display for indicating the height of compressed hair in said slot when said "J" shaped end of said plunger is moved toward said ~~boss~~ anvil with a bundle of hair in said slot.

14. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 10 including a knob at the other end of said plunger which can be gripped and ~~rotated~~ pushed by a hand for moving said "J" shaped end ~~toward or against a spring force~~ away from said ~~boss~~ anvil to open said slot for receiving a bundle of hair and released for moving said "J" shaped end with the spring force toward said ~~boss~~ anvil for compressing the bundle of hair between a bottom of said slot and said anvil.

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 14 wherein said knob "J" shaped end is spring loaded so that after the "J" shaped end is pushed out of said body, said "J" shaped end will return to it's at rest position and the compression spring is used to compress the bundle of hair.

16. (Currently Amended) A device for measuring the cross-sectional area of uncut hair from a pre-measured area of hair-bearing skin, said device comprising a body having a generally rectangular slot for receiving a bundle of hair, an anvil positioned adjacent said slot for being received in said slot upon relative movement between said anvil and said body, a compression spring associated with one of said body or said anvil and mechanically limited to place no more than a predetermined, precise amount of compressive force on variable-sized bundles of hair placed in said generally rectangular slot and a mechanical

mechanism for causing relative movement between said body having said slot and said anvil to compress the bundle of hair with no more than the predetermined, precise amount of compressive force and without hand compression.

17. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 including a measuring device associated with said device for measuring the amount of movement between said body and said anvil when a bundle of hair is received in said slot and compressed in said slot.

~~18. (Cancelled) The device of claim 16 including a spring associated with one of said body or anvil for placing a predetermined amount of compressive force on a bundle of hair placed in said slot.~~

19. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 16 including a return spring for normally holding said anvil in said slot, and said return spring being compressible to permit said anvil to be moved out of said slot to permit a bundle of hair to be received in said slot.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~ 1 wherein said hair restraining elements are calibrated gummed elements which are placed over the non-isolated hair.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~ 8 wherein said hair restraining elements are calibrated gummed elements which are placed over the non-isolated hair.

22. (New) The device of claim 16 wherein said body is partially U-shaped with said slot being in the U.

23. (New) The device of claim 16 wherein said body is at least partially J-shaped with said slot being in the J.

24. (New) A method of isolating a predetermined area of hair-bearing skin and measuring the combined cross section of uncut hair within the area comprising the steps of:

- preparing a pre-measured site using a combing element;
- isolating a bundle or column of uncut hair from the site;
- providing a slot having a width of 1mm
- placing the bundle or column of uncut hair in the slot;
- providing mechanical structure for moving a bottom of the slot against an anvil of the device with a precise predetermined compressive force;
- measuring the height or mass of the compressed bundle or column of uncut hair in millimeters in the slot; and,
- comparing the height or mass of hair measured with the height or mass of other hair measurements of a similar bundle or column of hair.

25. (New) A device for measuring the cross-sectional area of uncut hair from a pre-measured area of hair-bearing skin, said device comprising a body having a slot which is 1 mm wide for receiving a bundle of uncut hair, an anvil positioned adjacent said slot for being received in said slot upon relative movement between said anvil and said body, a compression spring associated with one of said body or said anvil and mechanically limited to place no more than a predetermined, precise amount of compressive force on variable-sized bundles of hair placed in said slot and a mechanical mechanism for causing relative movement between said body having said slot and said anvil to compress the bundle of hair with no more than the predetermined , precise amount of compressive force.

26. (New) A method of isolating a predetermined area of hair-bearing skin and measuring the combined cross section of uncut hair within the area comprising the steps of:

- preparing a pre-measured site using a combing element;
- isolating a bundle or column of hair from the site;
- peripherally positioning hair restraining elements adjacent the site to immobilize the non-isolated hair;
- providing a measuring device with a hair-receiving slot;

- placing the bundle or column of uncut hair in the slot;
- providing mechanical structure for moving a bottom of the slot against an anvil of the device with a precise predetermined compressive force;
- measuring the height or mass of the compressed bundle or column of uncut hair in the slot; and,
- comparing the height or mass of hair measured with the height or mass of other hair measurements of a similar bundle or column of uncut hair.

27. (New) A method for isolating an area of hair-bearing skin and measuring a combined cross section of hair in the area comprising the steps of:

- preparing a pre-measured site on the scalp;
- isolating a standardized bundle of uncut hair at the site;
- positioning hair restraining elements at the periphery of the site;

providing mechanical structure for compressing the bundle of hair with a precise measurable load while simultaneously measuring the height of the bundle of hair with a piston and cylinder device.